

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 036378

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:MPOL, UR, US

SUBJECT:NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE AND MILITARY LECTURER VISITS
TO USSR

REF: MOSCOW 1306 (NOTAL)

1. WE WELCOME APPROACH SET OUT IN REFTEL AND AGREE EMBASSY
SHOULD MOVE PROMPTLY TO PRESENT REQUEST TO SOVIETS.

2. NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE (NWC) TRAVEL IS SCHEDULED FOR PERIOD
9-22 APRIL. IN LIGHT OF THE EXTENSIVE SOVIET TRAVEL DURING
THE RECIPROCAL VISIT HERE LAST FALL, AN INCREASE IN NWC
EXPOSURE AND LENGTH OF STAY OVER LAST YEAR'S PROGRAM WOULD
BE MOST DESIRABLE. REQUEST EMBASSY CONSIDER THIS ASPECT IN
MAKING APPROACH. NWC GROUP WOULD NUMBER TEN INDIVIDUALS,
INCLUDING MAJOR GENERAL LOBDELL, COLLEGE COMMANDANT, ONE
FACULTY MEMBER, SEVEN STUDENTS AND (PRESUMABLY) ONE OFFICER
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FROM EMBASSY MOSCOW. NWC DESIRES TO SEND ONE OR MORE
CIVILIAN STUDENTS IF SOVIETS WILL ACCEPT THEM. THE RECIPRO-
CAL VISIT CAN BE ACCOMMODATED WHEN THE SOVIETS DESIRE. HOW-
EVER, A VISIT IN JUNE OR JULY WOULD NOT AFFORD AN OPPORTUNITY
TO VISIT NWC WHEN STUDENTS ARE PRESENT. WE FAVOR INCREASED
CONTACT WITH NWC STUDENTS, HOPING THAT IT MAY ENCOURAGE

RECIPROCITY AND PROMPT THE SOVIETS TO SEND IN THE FUTURE
MORE STUDENTS IN THE DELEGATION.

3. THE US AIR FORCE STRONGLY DESIRES TO CONDUCT THE MILITARY LECTURER EXCHANGE THIS YEAR, AND WE AND DEFENSE SEE ADVANTAGES TO ROTATING THIS PROGRAM AMONG THE SERVICES. WE REQUEST YOU APPROACH THE SOVIETS SUGGESTING THAT THE US AND SOVIET AIR FORCES EXCHANGE LECTURERS THIS YEAR SO AS TO COMPLEMENT THE CURRICULA AT THE SCHOOLS WHERE THE LECTURES ARE DELIVERED. THE USAF WOULD ESPECIALLY WELCOME A SOVIET AIR FORCE OR OTHER GENERAL OFFICER SPEAKING ON "THE REVOLUTION IN MILITARY AFFAIRS: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TECHNOLOGY AND THE PRINCIPLES OF WAR" OR "DETENTE AND THE STRATEGIC BALANCE BETWEEN THE US AND THE USSR" DURING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING PERIODS: 5 SEPT-3 NOV, 13-17 NOV, 27 NOV-1 DEC OR 11-15 DEC. THE LECTURES WOULD BE DELIVERED TO THE AIR WAR COLLEGE AND THE AIR COMMAND AND STAFF COLLEGE AT MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA. ADDITIONAL TRAVEL TO USAF INSTALLATIONS AND OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST IN THE US WOULD BE INCLUDED DURING A VISIT OF ABOUT A WEEK. A USAF GENERAL OFFICER OF COMPARABLE RANK TO THE SOVIET OFFICER WOULD RECIPROCATATE AT A TIME CONVENIENT FOR THE INSTITUTIONS THE SOVIETS CHOOSE. THIS METHOD OF ARRANGING FOR THE VISITS WOULD ALSO SERVE TO MOVE THE LECTURES AWAY FROM THE HISTORICAL TOPICS OF LAST YEAR'S EXCHANGE. HOWEVER, IF THE SOVIETS BALK AT THIS PROPOSAL, WE ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT AN EXCHANGE SIMILAR TO LAST YEAR'S. IN ANY CASE, CONFIDENTIAL

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THE RESOLUTION OF THESE QUESTIONS SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO DELAY OR JEOPARDIZE AN EARLY AND FAVORABLE SOVIET RESPONSE TO THE NWC VISIT PROPOSAL.

4. BECAUSE OF THE PROXIMITY OF THE APRIL PROPOSED NWC VISIT, YOUR PRELIMINARY APPRAISAL OF THE SITUATION AFTER YOU HAVE APPROACHED THE SOVIETS WOULD BE APPRECIATED. VANCE

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DIA PRIORITY

ISA PRIORITY

NDU PRIORITY

NWC PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 036378

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DTD 10 FEB 78

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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